

OPENING REMARKS FOR PREDECISIONAL ENFORCEMENT CONFERENCES WITH LICENSED OPERATORS

We are here today because as a licensed operator, you are accountable not only to the ---Company---, but also to the NRC in assuring that the requirements are followed and the ---Name of facility--- operates safely. The public expects that the NRC takes and we intend to take action as necessary to assure that utilities licensed to operate nuclear power plants as well as individual licensed operators properly operate the reactors and comply with all NRC requirements. Based on our review of the investigations and our inspection findings, it appears that you may not have followed NRC requirements and more importantly you may have done so willingly. If this is true, you failed to carry out the public trust that is expected of you as a licensee of the Commission.

The purpose of this predecisional enforcement conference is to provide you an opportunity to address what happened on ---date---, and receive your views on: (1) whether you believed at the time that your actions were appropriate; (2) whether now after having substantial time to consider those actions whether your views have changed, and if so why; (3) the broader implications of those actions; and (4) the corrective actions that you, personally, have taken or plan to take to prevent recurrence, if involved in licensed activities in the future, and why you did not raise your concerns to higher levels of management.

This is a predecisional enforcement conference. Based on these discussions, as well as on other information, if we conclude violations occurred, the NRC may take enforcement action against you and your license that could include the issuance of a civil penalty or the revocation of your license. In addition, action may be taken against you to remove you from licensed activities at ---Name of facility--- and prohibit your involvement at other licensees' facilities if we conclude that 10 CFR 50.5, the Commission's Rule against "Deliberate Misconduct" was violated. Should we initiate formal enforcement action, you will be formally notified and provided an opportunity to respond. If you do not have a copy of the Enforcement Policy, I will provide you with a copy.

I want to emphasize, we have not yet decided if violations were committed, if they were deliberate or whether enforcement action is warranted against you. During this conference, we will have questions for you to answer to help us reach decisions in this matter. Should you need a question clarified or if you have any questions yourself during this proceeding, please feel free to ask. We emphasize that we expect from you a complete and accurate response to our questions. If we failed to ask the right question that you feel needs to be answered that may be relevant to the issues of this conference, we expect you to come forward and address the issue. I also note that the statement, views, or expression of position made by the NRC during this conference do not constitute our final position. Please do not take our questions, response or silence as prejudging this matter. Do you have any questions on our expectations?

We appreciate that this is a significant matter. We will consider your views today and other information that we have or will develop. I would hope that we can reach a decision on this matter shortly. The decision on this matter will be taken only after careful consideration not only by the region staff, but by the Office of Enforcement, and the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation in Rockville.

As you can see, this meeting is being formally transcribed. A copy of it may be made available to you after the NRC has reached its decision as to whether or not enforcement action should be taken in this matter. If we make it available to you, we will also place it in the Public Document Room.

After we have asked our questions, we may take a short break before giving you an opportunity for any closing remarks or questions by us. Do you have questions on what I have said?